

**THE AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND (AMENDMENT) BILL**  
(No. XVI of 2006)

**Explanatory Memorandum**

The main object of this Bill is to amend the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act 2001 in order to provide for further and better provisions to –

- (a) enable the Fund to –
  - (i) raise the status of Aapravasi Ghat to the status of a regional and international heritage site;
  - (ii) administer, manage, promote and maintain Aapravasi Ghat;
  - (iii) set up interpretation centres;
  - (iv) create capacity building and provide training in accordance with its objects;
- (b) provide for a representative of the Prime Minister's Office to be a member of the Board.

07 July 2006

**M. GOWRESSOO**  
*Minister of Arts and Culture*

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**ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES**

*Clause*

- |    |                                    |    |                                     |
|----|------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------|
| 1. | Short title                        | 6. | Section 6 of principal Act amended  |
| 2. | Interpretation                     | 7. | Section 18 of principal Act amended |
| 3. | Section 2 of principal Act amended | 8. | Schedule added to principal Act     |
| 4. | Section 4 of principal Act amended | 9. | Consequential amendment             |
| 5. | Section 5 of principal Act amended |    |                                     |

# **A BILL**

## **To amend the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act 2001**

ENACTED by the Parliament of Mauritius, as follows –

### **1. Short title**

This Act may be cited as the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund (Amendment) Act 2006.

### **2. Interpretation**

In this Act –

“principal Act” means the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act 2001.

### **3. Section 2 of principal Act amended**

Section 2 of the principal Act is amended by deleting the definition of “Indentured Labour System” and replacing it by the following definition –

“indentured labour” means the recruitment, importation and employment of contractual labourers prior to 1925;

### **4. Section 4 of principal Act amended**

Section 4 of the principal Act is amended –

- (a) by deleting paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) and replacing them by the following paragraphs –
  - (a) to establish, administer, manage, promote and maintain the Aapravasi Ghat as a national, regional and international heritage site;
  - (b) to preserve, restore and manage the sites specified in the Schedule;
  - (c) to set up a museum and create public awareness of the history of indentured labour;
- (b) in paragraph (d), by deleting the words “Aapravasi Ghat” and replacing them by the words “the sites specified in the Schedule”;
- (c) in paragraph (e), by deleting the words “Indentured Labour System” and replacing them by the words “indentured labour”;
- (d) in paragraph (f), by deleting the word “and” appearing at the end;

- (e) in paragraph (g), by deleting the words “linked with the history of the arrival of immigrants in Mauritius.” and replacing them by the words “associated with indentured labour;”;
- (f) by adding immediately after paragraph (g), the following new paragraph -
  - (h) to encourage and support interdisciplinary scientific research related to indentured labour and to the sites specified in the Schedule.

**5. Section 5 of principal Act amended**

Section 5 of the principal Act is amended -

- (a) by adding immediately after paragraph (b), the following new paragraph -
  - (ba) a representative of the Prime Minister’s Office;
- (b) in paragraph (i), by deleting the word “Trust” and replacing it by the word “Fund”.

**6. Section 6 of principal Act amended**

Section 6 of the principal Act is amended -

- (a) in the heading by inserting immediately after the word “Functions”, the words “and powers”;
- (b) by numbering the existing provision as subsection (1);
- (c) in subsection (1) as newly numbered -
  - (i) by deleting paragraph (b) and replacing it by the following paragraph -
    - (b) to make such arrangements as are necessary to enable the public, whether on payment of a fee or free of charge, to visit the sites specified in the Schedule;
  - (ii) by deleting paragraphs (f) and (g) and replacing them by the following paragraphs -
    - (f) to undertake or support scientific research related to indentured labour and to the sites specified in the Schedule;
    - (g) to set up interpretation centres which shall interpret the cultural heritage of a site in relation to indentured labour;

- (h) to provide capacity building and training for the purposes of the objects of the Fund;
- (i) to carry out or support archaeological or conservational works on the sites specified in the Schedule;
- (j) generally, to do all such things as appear requisite and advantageous for the furtherance of the objects and for the performance of the functions of the Fund.

(d) by adding the following new subsection -

(2) The Board shall have such powers as are necessary to discharge its functions under this Act.

#### **7. Section 18 of principal Act amended**

Section 18 of the principal Act is amended by repealing subsection (2) and replacing it by the following subsection –

(2) Regulations made under subsection (1) may provide for -

- (a) the levying of fees or charges in respect of the activities conducted or facilities provided by the Fund;
- (b) the amendment of the Schedule.

#### **8. Schedule added to principal Act**

The principal Act is amended by adding the Schedule specified in the Schedule to this Act.

## **9. Consequential amendment**

The National Heritage Fund Act 2003 is amended by inserting immediately after section 2, the following new section –

### **2A. Application**

Sections 4, 6 and 15 shall not apply to Aapravasi Ghat and the remaining part of the structure comprising it, specified as item 1 under the heading Port Louis District in the Schedule.

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#### **SCHEDULE** *(section 8)*

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#### **SCHEDULE** *(sections 4 and 6)*

#### **SITES**

Aapravasi Ghat